

TOP SECRET

24727  
Copy #1 of 6

26 APR 1950

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Coordination, Operations and Policy Staff

SUBJECT: Dry-Run of Top Secret CIA Weekly Summary

REFERENCE: Memo to AD/ORE from Chief, COAPS, dated 3 April 1950,  
"Policy concerning the CIA Weekly Summary," ER-O-9778

1. With reference to your request for a dry-run of a proposed Top Secret CIA Weekly Summary, attached is a copy of the Secret Weekly Summary of 14 April 1950 along with four items which could have been included if the Weekly had been Top Secret.
2. It should be emphasized that the Top Secret items were of such a nature as to preclude mentioning them in a Secret publication. Although not of overriding significance in terms of US security, these items nevertheless would have contributed substantially to an understanding of important developments in key areas of the world.
3. Raising the classification of the Weekly Summary to Top Secret would not automatically insure the inclusion of Top Secret material in each issue. Selection of items for the Weekly is based on their significance to the US security and their usefulness to high-level policy makers in the Government. Top Secret material does not always meet these criteria. Top Secret reports not only vary greatly in quantity and quality from week to week but often deal with operational or procedural matters outside the scope of an intelligence publication.
4. Nevertheless, a Top Secret Weekly Summary would fill an important gap in CIA's intelligence production schedule by providing a regular medium which could freely and forthrightly evaluate significant trends in the light of all available knowledge. In the event of an acute international crisis it is conceivable that a Secret Weekly could not treat any of the week's significant developments but would have to confine itself to peripheral matters of less concern to high-level policy makers. Past situations which the Secret Weekly could not discuss adequately because certain aspects were Top Secret information include the Berlin blockade, the various Council of Foreign Ministers' conferences, the Palestine problem, the Austrian Treaty dispute, and the Kashmir problem. In addition, OSI has stated that it could also contribute evaluations of significant scientific developments if the Weekly were made Top Secret.

Attachments

THEODORE BABBITT  
Assistant Director  
Reports and Estimates

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| COPY NUMBER (S): #1 of 6   | LOGGED BY: dob            |
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| OFFICE       | SIGNATURE | DATE | TIME | DATE     | TIME | NAME & OFFICE SYMBOL | DATE        |
| AD/ORE       |           | 26   | 1630 | 26       | 1415 |                      | 26 Apr 1950 |
| IC/ORE       |           | 27   | 0930 | 27       | 1101 |                      | 26 Apr      |
| COAPS        |           |      |      |          |      |                      |             |
| D/Pub        |           | 26   | 1415 | 26       | 1530 |                      |             |
| AD/ORE       |           | 26   | 1530 | 27       | 0930 |                      |             |
| En. Registry |           | 27   | 1200 | 27       | 1528 |                      |             |
| Coaps        |           | 27   | 1530 | 1 May    | 0935 |                      |             |
| Sci          |           | 1    | 1300 | 9        | 200  |                      | 1 May 50    |
| Ch. COAPS    |           |      |      |          |      |                      |             |
|              |           |      |      |          |      |                      |             |
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COAPS

The DCI indicated "no decision" had been made on this yet—there are to be further discussions. Returned for your info and further disposition.

chris

ONE Wacky file

UNCLASSIFIED RESTRICTED FIDENTIAL SECRET  
 (SENDER WILL CIRCLE CLASSIFICATION)  
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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
 OFFICIAL ROUTING SLIP

| TO |              | INITIALS           | DATE   |
|----|--------------|--------------------|--------|
| 1  | DCI          | <i>[Signature]</i> | 9 May  |
| 2  | Chief, COAPS |                    | 12 May |
| 3  |              |                    |        |
| 4  |              |                    |        |
| 5  |              |                    |        |

  

| FROM |             | INITIALS | DATE  |
|------|-------------|----------|-------|
| 1    | Chief Coaps | P2       | 1 May |
| 2    |             |          |       |
| 3    |             |          |       |

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| <input type="checkbox"/> ACTION              | <input type="checkbox"/> DIRECT REPLY           | <input type="checkbox"/> RETURN    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> COMMENT             | <input type="checkbox"/> PREPARATION OF REPLY   | <input type="checkbox"/> DISPATCH  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CONCURRENCE         | <input type="checkbox"/> RECOMMENDATION         | <input type="checkbox"/> FILE      |

REMARKS: Note P 4 of Apr 26<sup>th</sup> memo attached.